

From: Charles Cooper
To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I personally am disappointed with the settlement.

Big business needs some definitive.

I have a computer business and run into numerous things while building systems that smack of Microsoft's explicit efforts to discourage non-Microsoft installations.

Obviously they aren't capable of providing an open product in their near-monopolistic hold on the industry. That's where I hope the government can maintain at least the handholds to permit competition. If nothing else the licensing and cost of Microsoft products is oppressive to small businesses and homeowners as evidence of Microsoft's stranglehold on the industry.

I applaud Microsoft's standardization of our software industry, but we need to permit avenues for competition for the likes of Netscape, Linux, Corel and other struggling competitors.

Chuck

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